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K-7006

TROJAN HORSE

NPIC/CSD 6/66

11 JANUARY 1966

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ROUTE 12 BY-PASS
MU GIA PASS AREA, LAOS
1735N 10544E

1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS BRIEFING BOARD REVEALS THE LOCATION OF A NEW BY-PASS ROAD THROUGH THE MU GIA PASS.

2. REMARKS:

THE MU GIA PASS AREA OF ROUTE 12, NEAR THE NORTH VIETNAM/LAOS BORDER, IS CONSIDERED A MAJOR POINT OF ENTRY INTO LAOS FROM NORTH VIETNAM FOR THE TRANSSHIPMENT OF SUPPLIES TO COMMUNIST OPERATIONS IN LAOS AND SOUTH VIETNAM.

3. LOCATION:

THE MU GIA PASS IS LOCATED APPROXIMATELY SIXTY NM SOUTH-SOUTHWEST OF VINH, NORTH VIETNAM. THE NEW BY-PASS ROAD BEGINS 0.5 NM FROM THE NORTH VIETNAM BORDER, BY-PASSES ROUTE 12 AND THE MU GIA PASS CHOKE POINT, AND TERMINATES AT ROUTE 23, JUST SOUTH OF THE JUNCTION OF ROUTE 12 AND ROUTE 23.

4. COLLATERAL:

INFORMATION DATED 17-18 DECEMBER 1965 REPORTED VEHICLE AND PERSONNEL MOVING ALONG ROUTE 12 AND THE ROUTE 12 BY-PASS ROAD.

THE MU GIA PASS AREA HAS BEEN SUBJECTED TO NUMEROUS AIR STRIKES SINCE FEBRUARY 1965, BLOCKING TRAFFIC BY BOMB DAMAGE AND RESULTING LANDSLIDES. EXTENSIVE REPAIR ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT TO

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KEEP THE ROAD SERVICEABLE BY FILLING IN BOMB CRATERS, CLEARING
DEBRIS, AND MAKING SMALL BY-PASSES AROUND INTERDICTION POINTS AFTER
EACH AIR STRIKE.

5. MISSION READOUT:

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REVEAL THE BY-PASS ROAD THROUGH THE MU GIA PASS.

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VEHICLE TRACKS EXTEND EAST FROM LAOS ROUTE 23 AT 1733N 10543E,
IN THE VICINITY OF BAN LANG KHANG, TO 1733N 10544E. THE BY-PASS
ROUTE THEN TURNS NORTH, GENERALLY PARALLEL TO THE WEST BANK OF THE
NAM HEU (STREAM), TO 1739N 10546E, WHERE THE ROAD JOINS ROUTE 12
0.5 NM SOUTH OF THE LAOS/NORTH VIETNAM BORDER.

THE ROAD PASSES UNDER HEAVY TREE CANOPY, PROVIDING NATURAL
CAMOUFLAGE. THOSE ROAD PORTIONS THAT ARE VISIBLE APPEAR TO BE
MOTORABLE.

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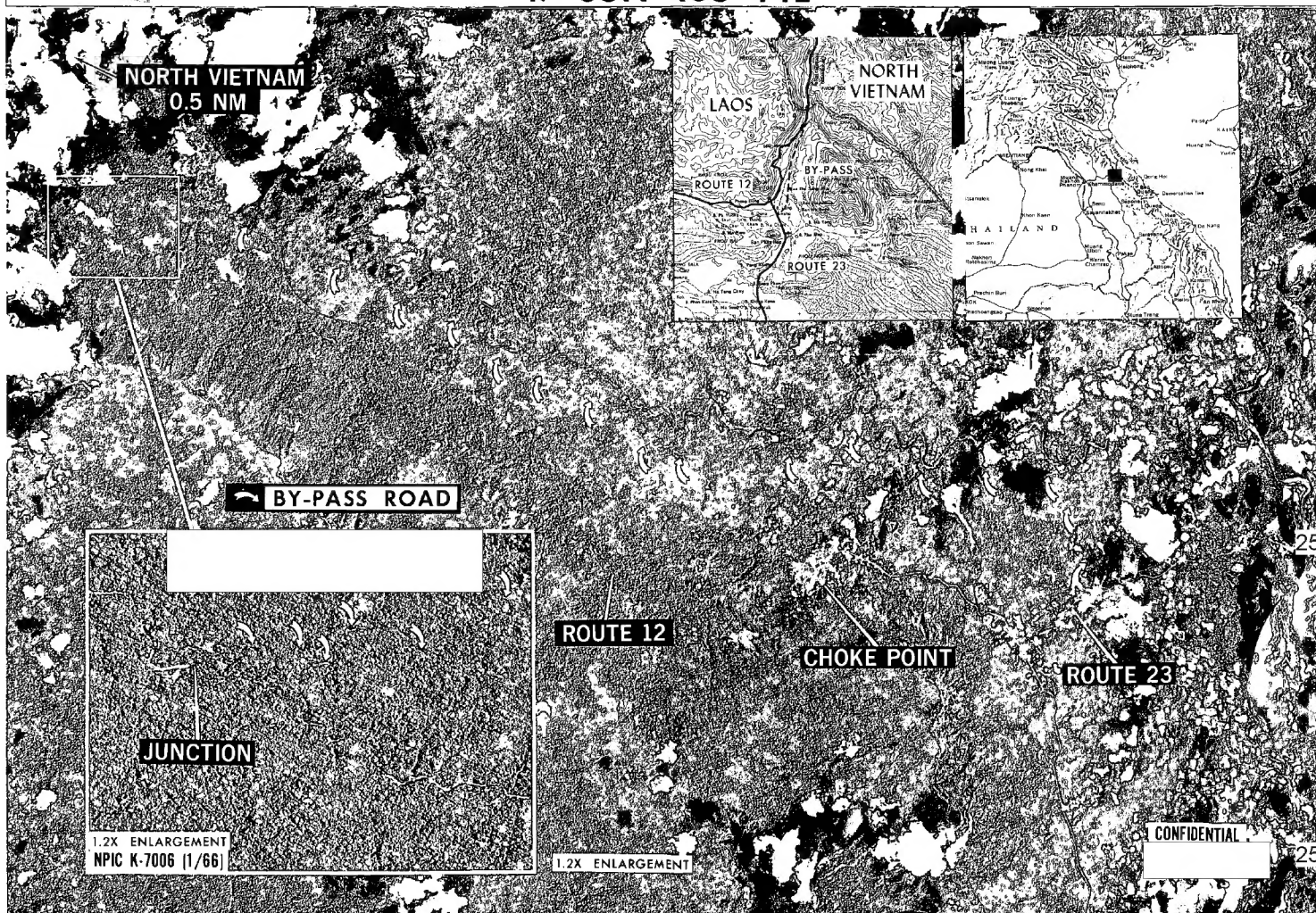
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ROUTE 12 BY-PASS MU GIA PASS AREA, LAOS 17-35N 105-44E



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